

***CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION**

Rev. Lindy Vogado

Jesus, you are God's holy child, born of Mary: **Lord have mercy.**
Jesus, in you all the fullness of God is pleased to dwell. **Christ have mercy.**
Jesus, you are the Word made flesh, full of grace and truth. **Lord have mercy.**

***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day, our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

SENDING

*** PASSING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

*** HYMN**

Silent Night, Holy Night
**Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
'round yon virgin mother and child!
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

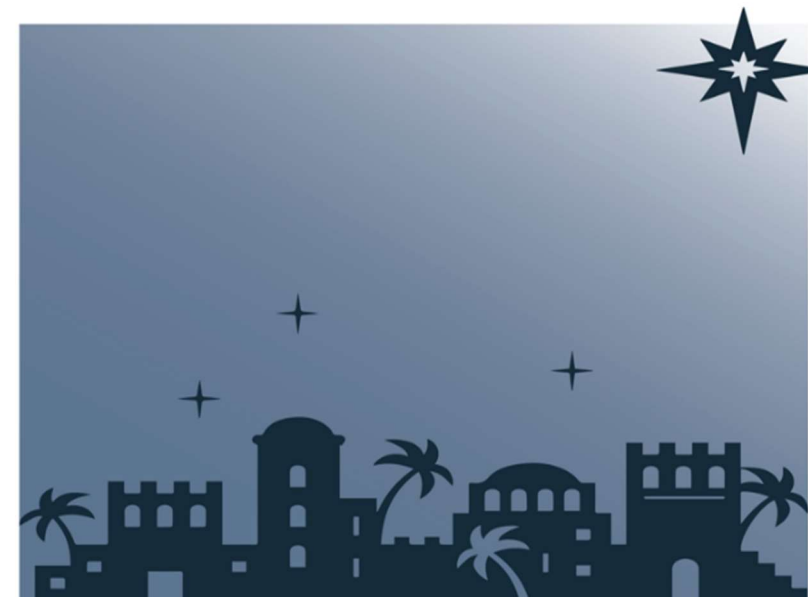
**Silent night, Holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King:
Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born.**

*** BENEDICTION**

Rev. Dr. Benjamin E. E. Kane

*Following the service, everyone is invited to Second Hall to enjoy cupcakes, hot chocolate,
and fellowship as we celebrate the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ.*

5:30 P.M.	11:00 P.M.
<i>Traditional Candlelight Communion Service</i>	<i>Youth-Led Worship Service</i>
Sanctuary	Youth Building



Christmas Eve Service

*"We are united in the belief that Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior
and in the transforming power of God's love and grace. We seek to follow the Word
of God and remain committed to service and mission both locally and beyond.*

**DECEMBER 24, 2023
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICE**

GATHERING

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Rev. Dr. Benjamin E. E. Kane and Rev. Lindy Vogado

Today we light the four candles of Advent.
We light one for the people who waited for hundreds of years for God's Messiah.
We light one for Mary and Joseph waiting for Jesus to be born.
We light one for all the waiting we have done getting ready for this night.
We light one for all the people who are still waiting tonight for God's love and justice.
Today, we can finally light the Christ Candle. Jesus is born! The Messiah has come!
So let us all say, "Merry Christmas!"

***CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

Do You Hear What I Hear
**Said the night wind to the little lamb, Do you see what I see?
Way up in the sky, little lamb, Do you see what I see ?
A star, a star, dancing in the night
With a tail as big as a kite, With a tail as big as a kite.**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Leslie McCormack

The Lord is with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.
God, we are excited to be here today. On this holy day, we will tell the story of Christ's birth as we search for him. We will talk about Mary and Joseph and the shepherds and wise people, and at the end of the story, we will find the Christ child lying in a manger. Be with us as we tell this wonderful story today. Amen.

*HYMN

O Come, All Ye Faithful
**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!**

**True God from true God, light from light eternal,
born of a virgin, mortal he comes;
very God, begotten, not created!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!**

THE WORD IN SCRIPTURE AND SONG

THE PROPHECY AND THE BEGINNING OF THE SEARCH

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

THE ANGEL GABRIEL ANNOUNCES

To Zechariah & Elizabeth
To Mary
Mary & Elizabeth Meet
Gabriel Speaks to Joseph

Luke 1:5-24
Luke 1:26-39
Luke 1:39-56
Matthew 1:18-25

THE VERY FIRST CHRISTMAS: THE SETTING

Luke 2:1, 3-4

*HYMN

O Little Town of Bethlehem
**O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

THE BIRTH OF JESUS

Luke 2: 1-7

*HYMN

Away in a Manger
**Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.**

THE ANGELS VISIT THE SHEPHERDS

Luke 2: 8-14

*HYMN

Hark, The Herald Angels Sing
**Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king.
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"**

THE SHEPHERDS COME TO THE MANGER

Luke 2:15-20

*HYMN

Rise Up, Shepherd and Follow

**There's a star in the East on Christmas morn, Rise up, shepherd and follow!
It'll take you to the place where the Savior's born, Rise up, shepherd and follow!
Follow, follow; rise, shepherd, and follow.
Follow the star of Bethlehem. Rise up, shepherd and follow!**

**If you've taken good notice to the angels' words, rise up, shepherd and follow!
You'll forget your flocks and forget your herds, rise up, shepherd, and follow!
Follow, follow; rise up, shepherd, and follow.
Follow the star of Bethlehem. Rise up, shepherd and follow!**

THE KINGS PRESENT THEIR GIFTS

Matthew 2:1-11

*HYMN

We Three Kings

**We three kings of Orient are; Bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder Star.**

**O Star of Wonder, Star of Night, Star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to Thy perfect light.**

**Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never over us all to reign.**

**O Star of Wonder, Star of Night, Star with Royal Beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to Thy perfect light.**

WE ENTER THE STORY

The Word of The Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Rev. Dr. Benjamin E. E. Kane

*We invite everyone to bring forth their offerings to the chancel and place them in the baskets.
One basket is for monetary offerings that will support the Pastor's Discretionary Account
and the other basket is for the cold weather gear we are collecting for Our House.*

*HYMN

Go, Tell it on the Mountain
**Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!**

**The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth rang out the angel chorus that
hailed our Savior's birth. Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on
the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!**

**Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills
and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!**